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GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS

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BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

(The size of books is given in inches to the nearest half inch.)

AMERICA

Madison: A Model City. By John Nolen. 168 pp., maps and illustrations. Madison Park & Pleasure Drive Association, Boston, 1911. 10½ x 7½.

The title does not mean that the capital of Wisconsin is now a model city, but the purpose is to examine the city as it is with a view to noting its merits, defects and tendencies, and then to suggest a comprehensive programme of definite measures that may be taken to bring about the desired improvements. The author is a "Landscape Architect" of Cambridge, Mass., who was employed by the Directors of the Madison Park and Pleasure Drive Association and a Citizens' Committee of fifty to prepare a plan for the future growth and development of the city. This book is Mr. Nolen's report on present conditions and recommendations for improvement. His suggestions embrace street widening, the securing for public use of the most important of lake frontages, the improvement of railroad approaches, the removal from streets of all wires, poles and other obstructions, systematic planting and maintenance of street trees, reorganization of park work and extension of parks and open spaces, improvement of the housing of persons of small means, and many other features. There are numerous photo-engravings and descriptions of various phases of city improvement at home and abroad which Mr. Nolen believes may be introduced to advantage in Madison. The volume is well worth the study of a much larger public than that for which it was especially prepared.

Argentina and Her People of To-day. An account of the Customs, Characteristics, Amusements, History and Advancement of the Argentinians, and the Development and Resources of their Country. By Nevin O. Winter. xiv and 421 pp., map and illustrations, appendices and index. L. C. Page & Company, Boston, 1911. \$3. 8 x 5½.

This would make good enough newspaper travel talk and has a hundred pages of history at the end that are good reading. For the rest it is worth little. The writer has aimed "to present a complete treatise upon the country," but one fears he has not the necessary training. Statements are made so recklessly that no data in the book may be trusted. The author says Argentina has a "half billion acres of fertile arable land," but the Statesman's Yearbook says "253,195,000 acres may be used for agricultural or cattle industries" (my italics). "The winter temperature resembles that of the Ohio Valley." Yes: as 55° resembles 35°, unless he is talking of the Straits of Magellan. Of the dry pampa we are told (p. 81) that "water is, however, not far below the